

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/241,989

Examiner

THOI V. DUONG

Applicant(s)

SUZUKI ET AL.

Art Unit

2871

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the amendment after appeal filed 9/22/2009.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,3-7,13,15-18,42-44,46 and 48-50.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. 08/121,657.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. This office action is in response to the Amendment filed September 22, 2009.

Accordingly, claims 1, 3 and 6 were amended, claims 2, 8-12, 14, 19-41, 45, 47 and 51-66 were cancelled, and new claims 13, 15-18, 42-44, 46 and 48-50 were added. Currently, claims 1, 3-7, 13, 15-18, 42-44, 46 and 48-50 are pending in this application.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 1, 3-7, 13, 15-18, 42-44, 46 and 48-50 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: none of the prior art of record fairly suggests or shows all of the limitations as claimed. Specifically,

Re claims 1, 3, 6, 13, 42, 43, 46 and 49, none of the prior art of record discloses, in combination with other limitations as claimed, a polarizer positioned between the liquid crystal display panel and the optical film, and a direction along which the peaks and valleys of the isosceles triangle (or quadrangular) prisms of the optical film are oriented is aligned in parallel to a polarizing axis of said polarizer.

The most relevant reference, US 5,442,523 to Kashima et al. (Kashima), fails to disclose or suggest the claimed invention. As shown in Fig. 5(a), Kashima only discloses an optical film including a first surface having a wave structure including a plurality of regularly spaced isosceles triangles prisms arranged side-by-side, the prisms having smooth surfaces, and a second surfacing having an optically rough structure for performing diffuse transmissions, wherein a top angle of said isosceles triangle prisms is in a range of 90 degrees to 110 degrees and wherein the tops of the isosceles triangle prisms (pitches) are from 10 to 1000 micrometer apart.

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Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thoi V. Duong whose telephone number is (571) 272-2292. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Nelms, can be reached at (571) 272-1787.

/Thoi V. Duong/ - Primary Examiner

September 22, 2009